



Board appoints Lisa A. Davis as Director At-Large

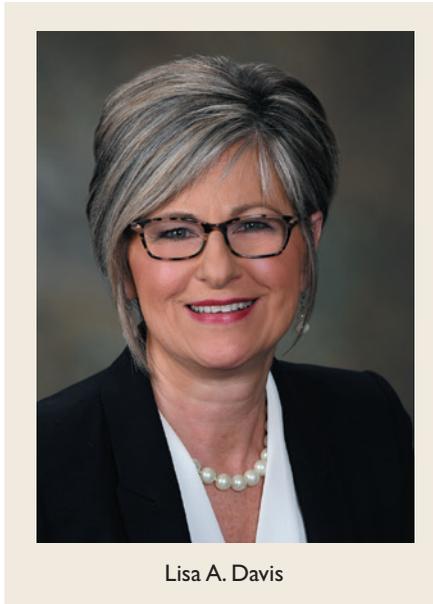
In compliance with the Cooperative's Bylaws, the Board of Directors appointed Lisa A. Davis to the Director At-Large seat left vacant by the death of Willie Green Cutts. Davis was appointed effective January 1, 2020, to serve the remainder of Cutts' term, which expires in June 2021.

Rene Smith, President/CEO of Sumter EMC, says, "We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Davis to the Sumter EMC Board. We look forward to working with her and sincerely appreciate her willingness to serve our members at large."

"I am honored to have been appointed to this position," Davis says. "I look forward to more opportunities where I can serve our members. I will do my best to represent our members, as I have a passion for giving back to the community."

Davis was born in Montgomery, Ala., to Billy and Simonia Ryals. At age 11, she moved to Snellville, Ga., where she lived for more than 20 years and graduated from South Gwinnett High School. Davis has worked and made her home in Lee County for the past 22 years.

In 2013, she earned her Regional Economic and Leadership Development certificate from the Georgia



Lisa A. Davis

Academy for Economic Development. She participated in the University of Georgia's J.W. Fanning Institute's Locate South Georgia LEADS Regional Leadership Program in 2017. She also completed Georgia Tech's Basic Economic Development course in 2018.

Davis worked in real estate for eight years before joining the Lee County Chamber of Commerce as Vice President and Director of Marketing, Membership and Events, a position she has held for more than 10 years.

Along with working in Lee County, she is quite involved in the community. She serves on the board of two Lee County organizations: Lee County Family Connection and Friends of the Library. As a member of Literate Lee's

literacy team, she assists with grants, fundraising and events such as Family Literacy Nights and Backpack Blessings. Another project close to Davis' heart is Locate South Georgia, which enables her to utilize her expertise in economic development for the benefit of 20 regional communities.

She and her husband, Bobby, a Worth County native, have five adult children and three grandchildren. Bobby served his country for 16 years, with the U.S. Marine Corps. He is employed with Flint Equipment Co.

SCAM ALERT



We want you to be aware of a growing phone scam that is targeting utility customers.

Phone scammers posing as Sumter EMC may call you and insist you are delinquent on your bill, threaten to turn off your power and demand payment immediately. The scammer may even rig the caller ID so it appears the call is coming from a Sumter EMC number.

BE CAUTIOUS of these scams!

Remember, Sumter EMC will be able to verify your account number and detailed information where scammers cannot.



Sumter EMC promotes Brokamp and Ward

David Brokamp and Brad Ward began the new year in new positions at Sumter EMC—Brokamp as Senior Vice President of Operations and Ward as Vice President of Engineering.

David Brokamp earned a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from Georgia Southern University in 1995. As Senior VP of Operations, he will



David Brokamp

be responsible for electrical operations, construction and system maintenance. He has been with Sumter EMC for more than 20 years, including 15 as Vice President of Engineering.

Outside of Sumter EMC, Brokamp is quite involved in his community. He sits on the board of the Lee County Chamber of Commerce

and serves as a Deacon at Friendship Baptist Church in Leesburg, Ga. He also serves as President of the Georgia EMC Engineering Association.

Brokamp and his wife, Starla, a lifelong resident of Lee County, have three children: Dylan, 17, and twin daughters, Briley and Brooke, 14.

We are looking forward to having his years of experience and knowledge as he serves our consumers in his new position!

Brad Ward was born and raised in Americus, Ga. He graduated from Georgia Southern University in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering Technology. Ward worked as an intern in the Sumter EMC Engineering Department before joining the team full time as Operations Engineer in January 2012.

In his new role as VP of Engineering, Ward will be responsible for load management, evaluating system reliability

and supervision of engineering, dispatch, metering and apparatus, purchasing and warehouse personnel.

"I am proud to play a part in providing power to my hometown community," Ward says. "I love the family atmosphere and small-town feel of Sumter EMC. I feel blessed to work here, and I am excited to have this new opportunity."

He is a member of Rotary Club International

in Americus. He and his wife, Haylee, have a 2-year-old daughter, Tinlee, and are expecting a baby boy in May.

We look forward to Ward continuing to serve Sumter EMC members for years to come.

Brokamp and Ward have worked together for more than five years. Brokamp will serve as a mentor to Ward during this transition. Their combined engineering expertise is just what Sumter EMC needs to propel the co-op into the future and continue meeting members' needs.



Brad Ward

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Placing hot food in the refrigerator makes the appliance work harder than necessary, using more energy. Allow food to cool down before you place it in the fridge.



Sumter EMC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

2020 census: Make sure you're counted

What is the 2020 census?



The 2020 census counts every person living in the 50 states, District of Columbia and five U.S. territories.

Ways to respond

There are three ways to respond to the 2020 census.

- Online
- By phone
- By mail (By mid March, everyone should have received a paper census questionnaire in the mail.)

Census Day 2020

April 1 is Census Day, a key reference date for the 2020 census. When completing the census, you will include everyone living in your home on that date. Census Day will be celebrated with events across the country.

Why you should take the census

- Your community counts and so do you!
- Census data affects the political power and money given to your community for the next 10 years. More people means more funding to feed children, support schools, support local roads and infrastructure. Additionally, the census count is used in redistricting state and federal political seats.

Because Every One Counts!

Make sure you and your family are counted. Be on the lookout for it to come in the mail in March and fill it out.



Utility notification requirements for contractors, farmers, well drillers and landowners

Contractors and landowners have substantial compliance responsibility when working near an electric utility's underground and overhead distribution power lines. Georgia law and Sumter EMC regulations require contractors and landowners to contact Georgia 811 or, in some cases, Sumter EMC before working near power lines.

Sumter EMC hopes to avoid personal injuries, unnecessary power outages and line damage associated with accidents involving its electric distribution facilities. Contractors can avoid substantial equipment damage and repair costs, as well as personal injuries to their employees, if they abide by these requirements.

These regulations apply to contractors, well drillers, farmers, landowners and others who may have a personal business interest in work performed near power lines. While the following rules address overhead power lines, Georgia law requires that anyone digging in Georgia must contact Georgia 811 at least three days before construction begins, so utility companies can be contacted to mark underground facilities.

High Voltage Safety Act

The High Voltage Safety Act became law in Georgia on July 1, 1992. This act requires individuals performing work within 10 feet of overhead high-voltage electric power lines to notify Georgia 811 during its regular business hours at least 72 hours prior to beginning the work (excluding weekends and holidays).

Georgia 811 will then contact the owner of the power lines to take appropriate safety measures

to prevent injuries, property damage and interruptions of utility service resulting from accidental or inadvertent contact with high-voltage electric lines. Failure to call Georgia 811 constitutes a violation of the law and can result in fines and penalties, in addition to liability for repair of damages.

Contractors are encouraged to become fully familiar with the details of the High Voltage Safety Act. Information is available directly from Georgia 811. Use the same telephone number for notifications or contact them at their website.

Georgia 811
Statewide: 811
Nationwide: 811
www.gaupc.com

Special notice to farmers

Modern farm equipment can be raised or lowered to allow for harvesting greater amounts with fewer delays. Use of this equipment requires that you check fields and roads where your equipment may come within 10 feet of overhead power lines.

The power lines were installed to comply with the National Electrical Safety Code clearance guidelines at the time of construction. If any part of your equipment will be within 10 feet of overhead power lines, you must notify Georgia 811 at least 72 hours before you work under the power lines.

Wells and pumps

Both the well driller and the landowner bear responsibility to notify Georgia 811 when any equipment or materials will be within 10 feet of overhead high-voltage power lines. For safety reasons, installation of wells and well pumps at distances closer than 30 feet from any overhead

power line should generally be avoided, but in locations where the options for well placement are limited, Sumter EMC will help determine the minimum clearance requirements, as specified in the National Electrical Safety Code.

Minimum clearance requirements for the location of wells and well pumps vary according to the line voltage and certain site-specific attributes, and Sumter EMC should be consulted to determine the appropriate minimum recommended distance. Clearance requirements vary with the voltage of the power line, whether or not the line is insulated, the height of the line above ground, the distance to poles that support the line and other local factors that determine where a drilling rig will be stationed for installation and future maintenance or pump replacement activities.

A Sumter EMC representative will meet with the well driller and/or landowner to determine the minimum acceptable distance if the desired pump location is closer than 30 feet from an overhead line.

Easements

Sumter EMC's Service Rules and Regulations require the contractor to notify Sumter EMC directly if proposed work and/or construction will be performed inside the utility's easement. In most cases, the easement extends 20 feet on each side of the power line. Sumter EMC will provide the necessary protection to avoid hazards. Again, consideration should be given to providing plenty of time to respond.

Call Sumter EMC's Engineering Department at (229) 924-8041 or (800) 342-6978 and ask to speak with a representative.